THE SINISTER, OF SPATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN ISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) adn (b) The Gov- ernment of India is in the process of reaching an agreement with the ADB for a loan to suppori the Capital Market Development Pro gramme. In this context the Govern ment of India is formulating strategies for automated trading in debt and equity securities and automated settlement of trades on exchanges.

(c) There id no proposal to make a loan available for SEBI from the IMF.

Telephones in Village Panchayats

*69. SHRI S. MADHAVAN. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide telephones to all village panchayats:

(b) if so, the number of village panchayats provided with telephones as on the 30th September 1993;

(c) the number of village panchayats yet to be provided with telephones.

(d) what steps Government propose to take *to* provide telephones to the remaining village panchayats:

(e) the number of electromechanical exchanges which are worn out or the life of which has expired, and are still to be replaced by electronic exchanges as on the 30th September, 1993; and

(i) what are the steps taken to replace the worn-out exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As on 30th September, 1993, out of a total of 2,32,347 Pan- chayat, villages, the number of such villages with telephone 'facility is 1,C4,135 and with out telephone facility it is 1,28,212.

(d) Government have planned to yiovide telephone facility to the remaining panchayat villages by 31st March, 1995 progressively subect to availability of resources

(e) (i) As a first step Government have planned to replace all electro mechanical exchanges of the Type MAX III and MAX II (LF) irrespec tive of their life ias a part of moder nisation plan of Eighth Plan objective.

(ii) The other electro mechanical exchanges of- the type MAX II (US) and MAX I are also being replaced on expiry of their prescribed JUfe. The details of such exchanges as on 30.9.1993 is being worked out and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(f) About 4 lakh lines of electro mechanical exchanges are likely to be replaced during the current finan cial year.

Waiting List of Telephones in the Country

*70. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of. COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of pending telephone applications State-wise till date;

(b) what i_s the break-up of the same in metropolitan cities; and

(c) what $step_s$ Government pro pose to take to provide telephone con nections early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICA TIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM), (a) The details are given in Statement I (See below).